Amendment to Claims

What is claimed is:

- 1. (currently amended) An automatic anchoring device for the securement of objects into sand, grass, or other malleable surfaces comprising:
 - a. a main tube;
 - b. an anchor screw;
 - c. an inside assembly comprised of components that fit together to form one mechanism inside the main tube;
 - d. <u>a reinforcement ring and a securing nut proximately placed near the top of</u> the main tube:
 - e. whereby said inside assembly comprises a power drive, a gear reduction box, and a power drive stabilizer and positioning cone;
 - e.f. whereby said power drive comprises a rechargeable battery, a DC electric motor and a three-function power switch;
 - f.g. whereby said anchor screw affixes to said power drive; and
 - h. whereby depressing said three-function power switch engages said DC electric motor, which in turn rotates said anchor screw into and out of said surface; and
 - i. whereby said reinforcement ring and securing nut secures any device of an appropriate diameter into said anchoring device.
 - 2. (canceled)
 - 3. (currently amended) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 21, wherein the main tube further comprises a carrying handle, a carrying handle channel and extract/retract lock buttons and corresponding extract and retract ports.
 - 4. (previously presented) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 3 wherein a three-function power switch channel acts as a safety device_whereby said three-function power switch can only be in the forward or reverse position when the anchor screw is fully extended.

- 5. (original) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 4 wherein a safety nose is affixed to the end of the main tube to help prevent the accidental intake of any material between the main tube and the anchor screw.
- 6. (original) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 5 wherein said anchor screw is comprised of a plurality of helical tapers.
- 7. (original) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 6 wherein an umbrella is secured with a securing nut to the topmost portion of the main tube.
- 8. (previously presented) The automatic anchoring device as claimed in claim 7 wherein the automatic anchoring device can accommodate any device that has a diameter that is smaller than the inside diameter of the holding tube and said device can be secured with a securing nut to the topmost portion of the main tube.
- 9. (original) A device as claimed in claim 8, wherein said inside assembly can be removed for maintenance purposes by adjusting a safety nose setscrew.